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September 4, 2014

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Sheryl L. Spiller, Director

Sheryl L. Spiller (PS)

**SUBJECT: MOTION BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EXPRESS LANE ENROLLMENT PROJECT (ITEM NO. 2,
JUNE 4, 2014)**

This is to provide you with a status report on the Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS) progress in implementing the Express Lane Project to provide Medi-Cal coverage to CalFresh participants. Below is a summary of our outreach efforts, implementation activities and data on the number of enrollments.

On June 4, 2014, on a motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, the Board instructed the Director of DPSS to fully implement the Express Lane streamlined eligibility process described in the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All County Welfare Directors Letter and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services Guidance. DPSS was instructed to report back to the Board in writing within 60 days and monthly thereafter.

As of August 31, 2014, approximately 26,000 CalFresh participants were enrolled in Express Lane Medi-Cal (ELMC) in Los Angeles County. The number of CalFresh participants enrolled in ELMC changes each month; individuals exit when they are approved for Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medi-Cal or when their CalFresh case is closed. Therefore, some CalFresh participants identified in our previous status report may no longer be enrolled in ELMC, but may continue to have Medi-Cal coverage.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

To date, DPSS has identified over 245,000 CalFresh participants who are potentially eligible to ELMC and we continue our outreach to them. CalFresh participants must opt-in to ELMC by phone or in person.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (Cont.)

To facilitate this opt-in process, DPSS: 1) offers eligible participants the opportunity to opt-in during every point of contact, particularly during their CalFresh recertification interviews; and 2) conducts telephone outreach to individuals who are potentially eligible encouraging them to opt-in during that phone call.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Implementation of the LEADER changes needed to track and monitor the 12-month eligibility period for Express Lane recipients is scheduled for October 2014. Until automation is implemented, all activity is being tracked manually and is entered into the State's MEDS System.

We will provide the Board with the next monthly update on the implementation of the Express Lane Project in 30 days.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (562) 908-8383, or your staff may contact Jose R. Perez, Chief In-Charge, at (562) 908-8633, or via email at joseperez@dpss.lacounty.gov.

SLS:ca

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
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